

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) Method for controlling a drink preparation machine [[(1)]] for preparing a multiple number of different drink units on a hot-water basis, the method comprising the steps of:

withdrawing the hot water for the multiple number of different drink units from the same a common hot water source [(8)],

 monitoring the performance status of the hot water source [(8)], and

 controlling the hot water withdrawal by in such a way that

enabling the hot water withdrawal is released for all of the multiple number of different drink units at a predetermined full performance status of the hot water source (I),

blocking the hot water withdrawal is blocked for all of the multiple number of different drink units at a predetermined zero performance status of the hot water source and,

blocking the hot water withdrawal at a predetermined partial performance status (II), is blocked for certain for a first number of predetermined drink units of the multiple number of different drink units and released enabling the hot water withdrawal for either a second number of predetermined drink units of the multiple number of different drink units at a predetermined partial performance status of the hot water source.

2. (Currently amended) Method according to Claim 1, wherein each performance status is limited by a threshold value (S), and blocking the hot water withdrawal for the first number of predetermined drink units occurs if the performance status falls below a this threshold value is fallen below.

3. (Currently amended) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the full performance status (I) is formed as comprises a performance range.

4. (Currently amended) Method according to Claim 3, wherein the partial performance status [[(II)]] comprises at least one performance range (H_4-H_2).

5. (Currently amended) Method according to Claim 1, and further comprising establishing a performance withdrawal value for each of the multiple number of different drink units drink unit, and deducting this performance withdrawal value from the current performance status with each withdrawal.

6. (Currently amended) Method according to Claim 1, and further comprising heating up the hot water synchronously with the withdrawal.

7. (New) Method according to Claim 1, further comprising determining the performance status of the hot water source prior to controlling the hot water withdrawal.

8. (New) Method according to Claim 7, wherein determining the performance status of the hot water source comprises determining a level of the water in a boiler.

9. (New) Method according to Claim 7, wherein determining the performance status of the hot water source comprises determining the temperature of the water in the hot water source.